

PEACE SENTINEL

Vol. 1

Bluffton, Indiana, October 17, 1941

No. 7

EDUCATIONAL DIRECTORS MEET

CAMP PROGRAM STARTED

Civilian Public Service Camps are a new thing, and the educational program which operates within them is even newer. In the case of the work project the C.C.C. camps had a pattern already set up. This pattern is being followed in the C.P.S. camps, except that it is our aim to do the job better. In the case of the educational program, however, we have found it necessary to build from the bottom up. Exploration of their task has convinced the educational directors, of the Mennonite camps at least that they cannot follow the traditional educational paths of the college or the high school. No existing program of education seems to fit the peculiar pattern required for a civilian public service camp, with its population of varied experience and background.

(cont. on page 3)

Paul? ... On the Peace Front

by Romain Zahm

On Friday evening, October 10, Don Smucker, midwestern secretary of the F.O.R. and graduate of Bluffton college, visited camp and talked to a meeting of interested campers on the conscientious objector here and in other countries.

He began by saying that conscientious objectors are found in every country. He reviewed the story of the 60,000 C.O.'s in England and their humane, democratic treatment by the British government; the perennial problem of the conscientious objector in France where military conscription originated and has been in operation for many years; the veiled letter of a Danish C.O. in German occupied Denmark, who tries to treat the German invaders as a Christian should, without compromise or acceptance of their false, brutal ideals.

(cont. on page 5)

FOURTEEN MEN RELEASED

MEN TWENTY-EIGHT AND OVER RETURN TO CIVILIAN LIFE

A total of eighteen men have been released from camp since its opening on June 23. Fifteen names have been struck off the list of campers at the Bluffton camp within the last two weeks. An additional one is on an indefinite sick leave. Menno Hostettler, Plain City, Ohio, who has been suffering from a severe attack of sciatic rheumatism for many weeks, is home at present resting and hoping to soon be able to move about with reasonable comfort.

Joe Weaver, Goshen, Indiana, who was so good natured that he kept everyone else feeling that way, was released because he had dependants at home.

Next week's issue of the "Bluffton Peace Sentinel" will list the names of the fellows release due to age together with some of their outstanding characteristics.

From our Guest Register-

Visitors from other camps in the last two weeks were Mrs. Carl Landes, Miss Betty Locher and Miss Albert, all from Camp Merce near Terre Haute.

Others of note who visited us recently were Jesse B. Martin, Waterloo, Ontario Canada, who is officially connected with camps in Canada similar to our own C.P.S. camps. Also with Mr. Martin was the Rev. Leroy Hofstetter of Elkhart, Indiana and E.O. Bender of the same city. Mr. Bender is treasurer of the Mennonite Board of Missions and Charity.

Approximately 1,300 visitors have registered in our camp since its formal opening June 23rd. Many, too, have been here who somehow missed our Guest Register.

We appreciate these visitors and their interest manifested in our camp. We welcome them to return from time to time as the program develops.

Thank you

On Sunday, October 5, we had 55 guests for dinner. This is the largest number we have fed since the opening of camp.

Two of the fellows over 28 years old who were released last Friday worked in the kitchen as waiters and dish washers. One of these was David "Duffy" Jones and the other Hartley Ghines. As a result we have been working longer hours. It was pretty nice though for the fellows to treat us to thirty gallons of ice cream and cookies. They said it was like the good old days when a fellow could see who ate the most. We feel that we owe Joe Weaver, who was released previously because of dependants, a vote of thanks for having put the idea across to the "seniors". Joe had treated us the night before.

We all greatly appreciate the canned fruit and other food our good friends have been donating to the camp. In this connection we might suggest that we could be sure that containers will be returned to their owners if they are labeled--having the owner's name on both the container and lid.

After "pulling" one that failed to register, the following conversation followed:
Dennis: When do we laugh?
Wes: It's a time joke--you wait awhile.



Who's who

LOWELL H.

Who is this member of our camp? He comes from one of the cornbelt states where he lived on a farm until he was through high school. At various times since then he has worked in a drug store, shoe factory, dairy farm, and several department store, and was at the head of a men's furnishing department in one of them. At one time he sang in a large chorus. One of his hobbies is to read, and he is especially interested in history. He likes to travel, having traveled extensively in the East and West. Other hobbies are walking, baseball, and music. His chief interest is dairying and his boyhood hobby was raising calves.

(Answer last issue: Delmar Stahly)

We gratefully acknowledge the many fine gifts of food stuffs received during the last two weeks.

Chicken, noodles and butter from Sugar Creek, Ohio; 500 qts. of canned fruit and apple butter from the Clinton Frame Church; a large box of assorted cookies from the ladies of the Normal, Illinois church; a large crock of sweet pickles from Tobias Yoder; and numerous other items of fruits and vegetables that were very much appreciated.

For the splendid interest and support of the camp project, we thank you, one and all.

QUARTETTE GOES TO OHIO

The camp quartette accompanied Mr. Hartzler to Bluffton, Ohio last Sunday. They sang at three different services in that community, Mr. Hartzler speaking on camp life. In the morning the group appeared at the First Mennonite Church in Bluffton, and at six o'clock again sang at the church for a meeting of the Bluffton College students. They also sang at the Grace Mennonite Church in Pandora that evening.

The boys together with Mr. Hartzler found appreciative audiences in the community. They especially appreciate the fine time given them by Miss Ramseyer, former camp dietician.

A second quartette with Mr. Hershberger presented a program at the Mennonite Mission in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Willis Hershberger also accompanied the group.

WOODBURN YOUNG PEOPLE HERE

On Sunday evening, October 5, a group of young people from the Defenseless Mennonite Church at Woodburn, Indiana, gave a program here at the camp. The pastor, Harold Fraker, gave a short talk and a ladies' trio and men's quartette sang a few numbers. The program was inspiring and we hope they can come again. Hartley Rhines, who was released from camp last week, is a member of the Woodburn Church.

Years are coming, years are going,
Creeds may change and pass away,
But the power of love is growing
Stronger, surer, day by day.---
---Anon.

The Spirit of Nonresistance

by Guy F. Hershberger

This is the first in a series of articles to be published on nonresistant principles written by our educational director.

THE SECOND MILE

Jesus is called the Master Teacher because he had a way of getting to the heart of the matter as other teachers have not been able to do. In his famous discourse on nonresistance in the latter part of Matthew five he spoke these simple words: "Whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain". Nothing illustrates the spirit of nonresistance more perfectly than does this way of the second mile.

A philosophy common in our day, known as non-violence, is often confused with nonresistance. But perhaps nothing better illustrates what nonresistance is not than does this current philosophy of non-violence of which Gandhi is the ablest exponent. It is Gandhi's purpose to secure political freedom for the Indian people through a program of non-violent disobedience to British law and authority. He and his followers unitedly refuse to pay the salt tax or to obey some other law which symbolizes the British authority. Gandhi's followers commit no violence. If the British army comes marching down the road they "peacefully" sit down in the army's path so that the soldiers must walk over them or turn about and go some other way. The non-violent resisters hope the army will walk over them and perhaps kill a few of their number. For if this happens the spirit of rebellion will be promptly strengthened.

Sit-down Strikers Non-violent

The sit-down strike and the economic boycott are typical American adaptations of non-violence. Sit-down strikers commit no violence. They just sit down "peacefully" beside their machines and tell their boss they will stay there until he comes across. Several years ago the automobile workers of South Bend launched a boycott against the Mid-Cont-

(Cont. on Page 7)

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM (cont. from page 1)

At Bluffton we have temporarily set up classes in Old Testament History, Life of Christ, Peace Studies, Church History, Writing and Speech, and Business Arithmetic. There is an organized chorus, and about fifteen boys are taking lessons in piano. In addition to this we are planning instruction in wood working, agriculture, health, and safety and first aid. It has become clear, however, that our program is too full. If our work is to be done efficiently the program must be simplified. At a meeting of educational directors of Mennonite camps held in Chicago, October 10-11, this was found to be the experience of all the camps.

(to be continued next issue)

Meditation....

by Mrs. Guy Hershberger

Over and over we hear that it is the little things in life that count. It is possible for every person to wear a smile to give a kindly greeting, to give a helping hand to one in need. The influence one has over others is usually far greater than one realizes.

Drop a pebble in the water--it makes a splash and then it is gone. But after the splash there is a ripple and then some more ripples spreading on and on and on. Drop an unkind word and you have the same result. It will be spreading and spreading from the center on out into the sea of life. Perhaps the unkind word has disturbed a heart that was happy.

Drop a word of cheer and kindness and again hundreds of ripples spread on and on. But there's gladness and joy that's spreading. Hearts have been made light. Perhaps a load has been lifted from a lonely and disturbed person. Words of cheer and kindness send sweet music that can be heard over miles and miles of the sea of life.

CORRECTION

In the last issue Earl Salzman was erroneously listed as a member of the Camp Advisory Board. The name of Jerry Sauder was unintentionally omitted as a member of that board.

THE BLUFFTON PEACE SENTINEL

Published every other Friday by the assignees of Civilian Public Service Camp No. 13 at Bluffton, Indiana.

Editor-----Carl M. Lehman
Associate Editor-----Romain E. Zahm
Staff Advisor-----Guy Hershberger

"My peace I give unto you." John 14:27

LET'S HELP TO VINDICATE THE CLAIM by R.L. Hartzler

We who have been reared in a democratically spirited church, which has always upheld the principle of non-resistance and peace, are apt to take it as being quite in order that governmental officials should go along with us, as they have in setting up this program of civilian service for conscientious objectors. It may help us to appreciate their attitude and service if we, for a moment, look at the matter from another angle.

EDITORIALS

In his message to the boys last Sunday morning, Rev. Allen Yoder, who is a member of the camp advisory board, made a rather significant statement. In effect he said that despite the great work being done by the church administration the final success or failure of the camp is in our hands. We will determine its effectiveness in a world gone mad with hatred and bitterness.

When we stop to think what the success of the Civilian Public Service Camps will mean to the future welfare of those who believe in living the better life taught by our Saviour, we can not help but feel a deep sense of responsibility. If the Civilian Public Service Camps fail we can expect treatment similar to that given the conscientious objectors during the World War. It is not only ourselves we must consider, but also those who in the years ahead will follow after us. We dare not let these camps fail. Men have worked and prayed long and hard to make them possible. Now that they are a reality it is up to us to take such a deep interest in their welfare that we will do everything we can to make them become thoroughly entrenched in our American democracy.

From time to time petty differences will arise. When we think of our own Mennonite background we realize that nothing short of a miracle could prevent occasional contention. The typical Mennonite way of settling disputes is for you to go your way and I to go mine. This traditional custom loses its value when we deal with projects requiring the unity of purpose essential to the successful operation of our camps. We must be ready to overlook some of the small differences that separated us in the past and work together to further our common purpose.

Men of Military Training

These are men of military training, experience and association. Both their background and military associates assert that camps in which any considerable number of men are stationed, cannot operate efficiently without a regime of rigid discipline, administered by a centralized authority. Anything apart from that to their mind is destined to end in failure.

Vindicate Their Faith

Doubtless those who represent government to us in this enterprise have had this contention thus held out to them. So in going along with us as they have, they have virtually staked themselves in the eyes of their peers. Let us be indeed appreciative of the step which they have thus taken and do our best, one and all, to vindicate their faith in us and our undertaking by our cooperation and diligence.

CHANGES IN PAPER STAFF

Several changes have been made in the staff of "The Bluffton Peace Sentinel". Ed Brookmyer succeeds Ernest Christner and Lowell Hershberger as circulation manager and dorm C reporter respectively. Dennis A. Lolman succeeds Clifford Hibner as Fish and Game reporter and Erwin Gingerich takes the place of Levi Hershberger for dorm H. We are looking forward to work from these new men which will measure up to the high standards set by those whom they succeed.

After reviewing things abroad Mr. Smucker discussed the different backgrounds of C.O.'s in the United States. Besides the many C.O.'s from the historic peace churches, the Quakers, Mennonite and Brethren churches, there are C.O.'s from the large Protestant denominations, from the Roman Catholic church, Jehovah's Witnesses, a few Jewish objectors and some humanitarian and political objectors.

Objectors not Mistreated

Mr. Smucker said he could see no rising spirit of intolerance or mistreatment of C.O.'s in the near future--not unless an American expeditionary force seeks to conquer Europe with the resultant huge lists of American boys killed and wounded. If that happened, he said, the people back home might make conscientious objectors the scapegoats for their own suffering and the losses of their loved ones in the armed forces. A discussion period followed the informal talk by Mr. Smucker.

FISH and GAME

by Dennis A. Lehman

The shoveling gang is not quite the same as it used to be. Joe Weaver is not with them any more, although his name is still mentioned by his friends with whom he worked ever since the project started. We miss all the fellows who have gone home but it is those of our gang with whom we worked that we miss the most.

Raising quail involves more work than merely feeding and watering them. There is great danger of disease starting and spreading to all of the two thousand quail coops. Some of the boys have been busy washing and disinfecting the equipment for all the coops. This equipment consists of one water pan, a feed hopper and a small laying nest made of tin. The laying nest is six inches square and two inches deep. A good natured water battle is not altogether unusual with this work, not so much because of a spirit of rivalry but more to break the monotony. The coops are covered with creosote to complete the job of disinfecting. The creosote also preserves the wood. General cleaning up is still being done although there are less of us working at it than formerly.



JOBES JURY PROJECT

by Marvin Aupperle



Being the month of October nature already is beginning to reveal gorgeously colored trees. The squirrels are becoming more active--going about looking for nuts--burying some and forgetting where they put them often enough to make them good foresters; tree planting being a qualification of a good forester.

Completing Sprinkling System

The new water sprinkling system now nearing completion at the custodian's residence is regarded the most interesting project being worked out in the state forest. The spray heads of the system are set in rows. These rows are 17½ feet apart, each spray being 20 feet from the one next to it. Every other row is set so that the spray head sets between those of the next rows. The method of draining is interesting. The pipes are sloped so that the water will run toward the drains which are located at a place lower than the rest of the pipe line. When the water is turned on the valve in the drain is forced shut. When the water is turned off the pressure on the drain valve is released, permitting it to open and allowing the water to drain out.

It is interesting to know that some of the work the boys are doing is in the nature of gaining experience which will better qualify them to carry on their trade in the future, enabling them to do so with a higher degree of efficiency.

New Men in Camp

After a blanket dismissal of 14 men from this camp, three more assignees arrived to bring the camp's total enrollment up to 118 men.

Marlin J. Roth, Elkton, Mich. farmer and electrician and Milo Stalter, Detroit, Mich., Men's furnishings clerk in the Federal Dept. Store, arrived in camp on Oct. 8. Mr. Stalter formerly lived on a farm and spent one year at Goshen College.

On October 15, Benjamin Shirk, Elkart, Indiana, born and raised on a farm in Lancaster County, Pa. and having spent the past summer on a large dairy farm near Elkart, packed his grip and moved off for an indefinite stay in camp.

SPIRIT OF NONRESISTANCE
(Cont. from Page 3)

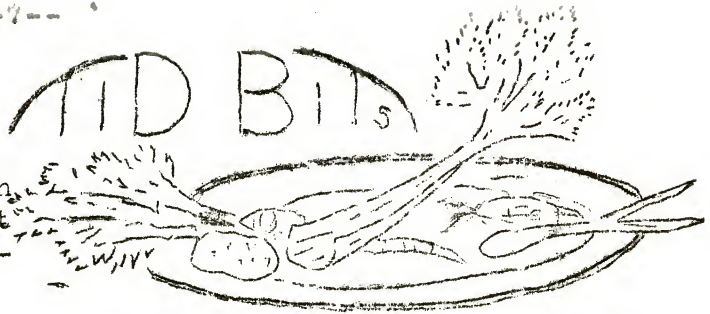
inent Petroleum Company. The unions decreed that workers should quietly abstain from buying D-X gasoline, with the result that sales at D-X stations were materially reduced. There was no violence, no bloodshed. But the spirit, the aim and purpose were the same as if there had been violence. A careful examination of so-called non-violence shows that even its method and its spirit are no different from that of violent coercion. Its motive is not love for the enemy which Jesus requires. Its aim is to humiliate the enemy, to obstruct his program, to destroy his business if necessary, to starve him, to make him unpopular, or by whatever method possible, short of violence, to coerce him into submission---to make him do you good. This is the non-violence of Gandhi, not the nonresistance of Jesus. When Jesus said, "Love your enemies", He did not mean by this: love your enemy because that is God's will. Your enemy may never do you good, whatever you do, but you must love him anyway. The Christian's business is to obey the will of God. Whether doing so results in pleasure or in pain for himself does not matter.

Jesus Illustrates Non-resistance

How beautifully this is illustrated in the words of Jesus: "Whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain." Jesus took his illustration from the Roman practise of forced labor for the repair of roads. He was speaking of the Roman governor who compelled the Christian to repair a mile of road without pay. No doubt some persons thus conscripted were sometimes tempted to go on a sit-down strike, but Jesus says, rather than go on a strike, do more than is required and repair two miles of road. Do not attempt to block the government's program. But unless it requires something which in itself is a violation of God's command, do more than is asked of you.

The conscientious objector in a civilian service camp has much to be grateful for. If he is ever tempted to feel otherwise he should stick himself with a sharp pin to see if he can discover what is wrong. Remember Jesus says: Don't complain if you are asked

(cont. on page 8)



A short time ago while reading I came across a statement something like this: "Etiquette is the set of rules for the game of social life. Everyone plays it, whether he deliberately plans to or not. He who knows the rules, wins, and he who doesn't, loses."

Little Things Count

Often we shy away from a word or some other thing because we think it sounds "stuck-up", or "put-on", or whatever else we choose to call it. We say, sometimes by word, sometimes by action: "This is the way I am, and I can't help it, and people can just take me like this." And so perhaps they do, "take" us as one would a pill, and that only when it can't be avoided. So it is that we miss a lot of the pleasant and worthwhile things of life simply because we are too lazy (only we like to call it humble or something equally self-flattering) to bother to learn and practice the little, nice things that make the life of a group a more agreeable experience. We want to play the game without the rules.

(continued on page 8)

"Proof that the present camp system works was offered by General Lewis B. Hershey, Selective Service Administrator, who said, 'Man for man and camp for camp, the Civilian Public Service Camps are doing two or three times as much work as the CCC camps which occupied the same barracks and did the same work.' The camps are regularly completing work projects far ahead of schedule, providing the government work supervisors who had previously dealt with WPA and the CCC with an amazing new experience when they grumbled, not because there was work to do, but because it was not provided fast enough. The CPS camp near Colorado Springs has the record of doing a measured piece of work in one-seventh the number of man-days required by the CCC. A government official said, 'If the army had the attitude which the CPS camps show, we would not worry about low army morale'."

---Christian Century, Sept. 17, 1941.



IN AND OUT OF DORMITORIES

Dorm B is no longer filled with noisy merry making mates. For as you enter any night now, you hear only sounds that emanate from the dorm adjoining. There may be someone reclining on a cot or reading a book, and when you speak your words echo mockingly back. The reason,--those of 28 or better are gone.

Simon Miller of Dorm E likes to make picture frames, chests and other small articles during his spare time.

The boys of dorm G extend a hearty welcome to Milo Stalter and Marlon Roth, newly arrived campees.

If Joe Slabach can come to camp without having anymore blowouts he will be a man some day.

Dorm H has had a lot of company from the other dorms since they have their new popcorn popper.

Dorm C held an election last Friday night at which time David Anderson was elected captain, Fred Stamm assistant captain, and Ed Brookmyer dormitory reporter.

Monroe Wengard had his bed fixed so he would not fall very hard if he fell out.

Dorm D is bothered quite a bit by the boys of dorm C coming over to read all the papers and letters they can lay their hands on.

Rudy Yoder of Dorm G has published a book entitled, "Life of Yoder Boy". The book is just off the press and sells for one dime. Any one interested in Rudy's life history should be sure to get a copy. It is worth many times its cost.

In dorm B you will find Ernie Christner these evenings vigorously reading joke books for he is preparing his next article for the "Sentinel".

Caution: It is not wise to sleep while driving a car. For further information ask Henry S. Miller of dorm E.

The boys thought Reuben Esch of dorm C was, apparently, too over joyed when he received word of his release from camp. He returned from the work project with a dislocated shoulder and had to be taken to the doctor at Berne.

Marvin Aupperle is still in a quandry over his difficulties with his girl friends.

The other night Kenneth Miller left his radio running when he went to sleep. So about 10:30 Paul Birky had to get out of bed to turn it off so he could go to sleep.

The boys of dorm E appreciate the patience and cheerfulness of Albee Miller during his stay at camp. It might not be so bad to be over 28 ourselves.

The boys of dorm G wish to thank Hartley Rhines, Sam Troyer and Constance Delagrang for the treats presented them prior to their leaving camp.

Ray Gerber seems to be unusually jolly this week. Could it be that he is thinking of Nappanee?

In dorm D the boys have a fluorescent lamp to add more beauty and to brighten their room.

Shorty Hershberger has turned big game hunter. Recently he bagged a large mouse and turned it over to dorm C to make disposition. Norman Zook of that dorm was able to do that little thing.

There were no boys over 28 years old in dorm D so we still have our same old gang left.

Dorm C wishes to request that the next rail splitter to come to this camp be placed in dorm D and be instructed to teach the boys how to split kindling rather than borrow it from dorm C.

Wickie Miller: Lyle, I stuck up for you the other day.

Lyle Strauss: How's that?

Wickie Miller: Someone said you weren't fit to sleep in dorm D but I said you were.

Dorm E extends a greeting to all readers. We had the pleasure to dispose of 10 pounds of good old Holmes County cheese last Sunday afternoon.

Melvin Yoder failed to make his usual jump into bed the other night. The boys still wonder why he had to see the unhooked bed springs.

ERNIE'S SPECIAL BEDTIME STORY
BY Ernest Christner

RECREATION
By Willis Hershberger

Editor's Note: "The Bluffton Peace Sentinel" does not vouch for the accuracy of the following story. If it makes you laugh, we feel it will have served a useful purpose.

Basketball, Football, Boxing, Checkers

A new football, basketball, and volleyball were secured by our business manager to be used in camp games.

Our basketball games are quite rough-and-tumble affairs. If a player emerges just exhausted he is a lucky man.

The fellows are taking an active interest in football. They are kicking and passing the ball about until darkness falls.

All boys desiring to participate in these games should put their names on the list posted in the camp office.

Two pairs of boxing gloves have been brought to camp by Ernie Christner. Art and Ernie tossed the leather at each other Tuesday evening. However no damage was suffered by either man.

As fall and winter come upon us checkergames are appearing throughout the dormitories. Also popcorn poppers are fast becoming popular for evening treats.

After looking back on my hunting experiences, there is one that comes to my mind as of the more unusual type. It seems that one day after having walked nearly four hours without finding even so much as a trace of game, I finally decided to break the monotony by taking a few shots at an old nail hammered into the trunk of a tree on the other side of the river. Before I knew it I was down to my last shot.

Knowing that getting any game now all depended on one bullet, I decided to be careful. Suddenly, as I was walking along the bank of a river, I saw eight ducks flying in a straight line. Taking careful aim I fired and the bullet passed through the heads of all the ducks, killing them instantly. As the ducks fell they broke a dead limb from a tree; this limb hit a moose on the head and killed it; the moose in its death throes kicked a rabbit; the rabbit came sailing through the air, knocked me into the stream and I came up with my pockets full of fish.

SPIRIT OF NONRESISTANCE
(Cont. from page 7)

TID BITS(continued from p.7)

We hear the word "etiquette", and immediately think of a large number of forks and spoons; or knowing when to wear formal clothes; or what to do at parties. But we're sure none of those are important to us so we have no thing to do with etiquette. How about thinking for awhile that besides all those rather superficial things it also means kindness and consideration for others, and doing things that will make life pleasant for the folks we come in contact with? Most of us are willing to accept the traditions and rules that have been established in connection with driving automobiles. We drive on the right hand side of the road; stop for red lights; and use certain signals to let the man know what we are planning to do. So why not be willing to apply the same idea in other places where our lives come in contact with those of others? Why not learn and use the rules there, too? Because it's really lots more fun to win if you can. And this is one game where no one needs to be a loser.

to dig ten post holes; rather dig twenty holes and be grateful for the opportunity of doing it. Recently Paul Comly French remarked that the C. O. who complains about camp life seems to think that if he were 'nt in camp he would be at home, whereas this is not the case at all. If he were 'nt in camp he would be in the army, or in jail. So come on fellows! Let's make this year or more in camp the biggest of our lives. Let it be our opportunity to demonstrate the true spirit of nonresistance. If Uncle Sam asks us to go a mile, stop on the gas and get to the end of the second mile before your time is up.

C.P.S: Camp 13
Bluffton, Ind.

Sec. 562 P. L. & R.